

In the claims:

1. (ORIGINAL) A combustion catalyst for treating a suspended particulate matter in a diesel exhaust gas, said combustion catalyst comprises: a carrier composed of oxide ceramic particles comprising a ceria-zirconia or a ceria-praseodymium oxide; and a precious metal or an oxide thereof as a catalytic component loaded on the carrier.
2. (ORIGINAL) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 1, wherein the carrier has a ceria content of 45 to 95 wt%.
3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the carrier is composed of oxide ceramic particles further comprising yttria or lanthanum oxide.
4. (ORIGINAL) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 3, wherein the carrier has a ceria content of 45 to 95 wt%, and a content of yttria or lanthanum oxide of 0.1 to 15 wt%.
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein the precious metal as the catalytic component is comprises ruthenium.
6. (ORIGINAL) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 5, wherein the carrier has a loading of ruthenium of 0.1 to 10 wt% based on the carrier weight.
7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein the precious metal as the catalytic component is comprises iridium.

8. (ORIGINAL) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 7, wherein the carrier has a loading of iridium of 0.1 to 10 wt% in terms of the carrier weight.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein the precious metal as the catalytic component ~~is~~ comprises platinum or silver.

10. (ORIGINAL) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 9, wherein the carrier has a loading of platinum or silver of 0.1 to 10 wt% in terms of the carrier weight.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 5 ~~or 6~~, wherein the catalytic component further comprises iridium and/or silver.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 11 which comprises iridium and, wherein a loading ratio of ruthenium to iridium (ruthenium:iridium) is 1:20 to 20:1.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 11 which comprises silver and, wherein a loading ratio of ruthenium to silver (ruthenium:silver) is 1:10 to 10:1.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 7 ~~or 8~~, wherein the catalytic component further comprises at least one of platinum, rhodium, ruthenium, palladium and silver.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 14 which comprises platinum and, wherein a loading ratio of iridium to platinum (iridium:platinum) is 1:30 to 30:1.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 11 which comprises rhodium and, wherein a loading ratio of iridium to rhodium (iridium:rhodium) is 1:30 to 30:1.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 16~~, wherein the carrier is formed on a surface of a metal base via wash coating.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for combustion treatment of a diesel exhaust gas, comprising the steps of: collecting a suspended particulate matter in a diesel exhaust gas, and ~~burning/eliminating~~ burning or eliminating the collected suspended particulate matter by the catalyst according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 17~~.

19. (NEW) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 2, wherein the carrier is composed of oxide ceramic particles further comprising yttria or lanthanum oxide.

20. (NEW) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 19, wherein the carrier has a ceria content of 45 to 95 wt%, and a content of yttria or lanthanum oxide of 0.1 to 15 wt%.